

M'IVER OF NORTH CAROLINA

(Albert Shaw in North American Review.)

Charles Duncan McIver, who died suddenly last month, was one of the most useful and important men of his generation in America. If the country did not know him well it was because he was too busy serving its highest interests to impress himself, as he might easily have done, upon the entire nation. Dr. McIver was the president of the North Carolina State Normal and Industrial College, an institution for young women at Greensboro. That would have been a worthy and honorable post for any man to fill, but Dr. McIver was much more than the administrative head of a school for girls. He was a great educational statesman at a time and in a section where the education of the children ought in truth to be the foremost task of the real leader of a state.

Dr. McIver was not quite forty-six years old; but his influence was already great, and his achievement was of the sort that saves imperiled civilizations and transforms communities. He recognized the fact that the south was backward in its educational work, and from the very day that he graduated at the University of North Carolina he became an apostle of the movement to improve the schools. He became an organizer of public school systems in the cities of his state, and a leader in the work of creating rural schools under conditions of lack and need such as can hardly be understood in the north. He organized and conducted teachers' institutes in all the counties, and became the great propagandist of progress in school affairs throughout North Carolina.

He soon came to realize the fact that a good school system could not be possible without a better trained corps of teachers, and he determined to provide an institution that would receive a great number of promising girls from all parts of the state, give them an education at small cost, and train them to be teachers of exactly the type needed in the schools, par-

ticularly of the rural districts. He appealed to the legislature with ultimate success, secured his appropriation in 1891, and opened his school some fourteen years ago. The state has dealt with him generously, for Dr. McIver's enthusiasm has never failed to carry the legislature in the direction of his desires. Other very important educational posts from time to time were open to him but he felt that his work could best center in the direction and development of the wonderful institution he created at Greensboro. It is one of the finest schools for the culture of women in the whole world and it will stand as a monument to McIver's energy and splendid talent, both as an organizer and as a trainer of teachers.

In due time Dr. McIver became the leader of a remarkable movement in his state for the adoption of a plan of adequate local taxation to supplement state funds in the carrying on of schools. The transforming results of this campaign ought to be widely known for their inspirational value elsewhere. His personal influence as an educational leader could not be confined to the bounds of his own state and he became influential throughout the south as one of the half dozen foremost men in a movement for improving school legislation and bettering practical educational conditions.

He was a man of remarkable eloquence, and of great readiness and power on all occasions in public speech. He was famous for his wit, and for his unlimited store of amusing incidents and anecdotes.

When the southern education board was formed some years ago he became one of its members, and as chairman of its campaign committee, his labors were incessant and of priceless service to the cause. He was president of the Southern Educational Association last year, and was always one of the most prominent men in the National association, counting among his close personal friends the foremost

educators in the United States throughout the north as well as the south. If he had chosen to turn his energies into political channels he would have been governor of his state and then United States senator.

His efficiency and his gifts of leadership would have made him a marked man, and a rare success in any profession or calling. But he gloried in the work he had chosen, and believed that the right training of women, for the sake of the home and the common school, was the most fundamentally important thing with which he could possibly concern himself; and so it was that he gave his strength and his life to that work. He can be ill spared, but he had builded so broadly and staunchly that what he has done will remain. Furthermore, he had a fine gift for working with other men and for bringing forward young associates and colleagues imbued with his ideas and spirit, and trained to promote educational progress along the lines he had laid down. Thus, his work will remain; his memory will long be honored in North Carolina; and in the loss of their noble educational leader many of the citizens of his state will be the more firmly resolved to devote themselves to the great cause of which he was chief apostle.

POLITICAL CONVENTIONS

The Massachusetts republican state convention in session at Boston nominated the following ticket:

Governor—Curtis Guild, jr., Boston.
Lieutenant governor—Eben S. Draper, Hopedale.

Secretary of State—William M. Olin, of Boston.

Treasurer and Receiver General—Arthur B. Chapin, Holyoke.

Auditor—Henry E. Turner, Malden.

Attorney General—Dana Malone, Greenfield.

The platform expressed especial commendation of President Roosevelt, greeting him as the man "who had exposed misconduct in public without pity and punished it without mercy, and as a potent influence for peace in the world, and a wise and successful leader in wholesome legislation in the interests of the whole people."

The administration of Governor Guild was approved. The public ownership of railroads was opposed. Sympathy was expressed with the "suffering and outraged Jews in Poland and Russia, although with a sense of profound humiliation that our own garments are not free from the innocent blood of Americans of African descent."

The platform dealing with the disfranchisement of the negroes urges enforcement of the fifteenth amendment to the constitution "as a sacred duty to the nation."

The tariff plank was less favorable to pronounced tariff changes than that accepted at last year's convention, which advocated immediate action.

The Rhode Island democratic state convention in session at Providence, nominated James H. Higgins for governor, now mayor of Pawtucket. The convention declared that in Rhode Island "the money and rights of the people have been bargained away for individual profit. A brutal boss with a warped conception of public morality has sold our laws and offices from an auction block in the statehouse."

The ticket was completed as follows:

Lieutenant Governor—Charles M. Sisson, Providence.

Secretary of State—William Palmer, East Providence.

Attorney General—Edward M. Sullivan, Cranston.

State Treasurer—John A. Archambault, Warwick.

The platform denounces "the boss

passed to the boss, who has robbed Rhode Island of millions of dollars worth of franchises. Under this system the people of the state have been system" which, it declares, dominates national and state affairs. "The government of the state," it asserts, "has deprived of a revenue from taxation of millions of dollars, and a portion of this money so unjustly withheld from the state has been used to corrupt a controlling element in communities."

The establishment of the eight-hour day for all state and municipal work is demanded, as are the calling of a constitutional convention, with representation based on population, and the enactment of a corrupt practices law applicable to elections and primaries.

The platform also favors the election of United States senators by direct vote.

The democratic state convention for Massachusetts, in session at Boston, nominated for governor, John B. Moran, now district attorney at Boston,

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